

2002 PHYSICIAN SURVEY

Vermont Department of Health
Agency of Human Services

SURVEY DESCRIPTION

Mailed to physicians along with the license renewal forms in the fall of 2002

Followed up via mail and phone calls

The final response rate was 99.8%

SUMMARY

- There were 1565 physicians providing patient care in Vermont (1526 MDs and 39 DOs).
- 28% (430) of the physicians were female.
- 49% (755) of respondents have worked in Vermont 9 years or less, and 22% (345) have worked in Vermont 20 or more years.
- 35% attended medical school or completed residency training at the University of Vermont.

PRIMARY CARE

- 40% (628) worked mainly in primary care, including:
 - 17% (259) in family practice
 - 13% (198) in internal medicine
 - 4% (68) in ob/gyn
 - 7% (103) in pediatric primary care
- There were 80.1 primary care FTEs per 100,000 population

SPECIALTY CARE

- 60% (937) worked mainly in specialty care:
 - 5% (73) in anesthesiology
 - 5% (86) in emergency Medicine
 - 8% (128) in specialty Internal Medicine
 - 9% (146) in psychiatry
 - 5% (83) in radiology
 - 9% (143) in surgery (51 general, 60 orthopedic)
 - 18% (278) other specialties (38 neurology, 47 ophthalmology, 44 pathology, 25 urology)

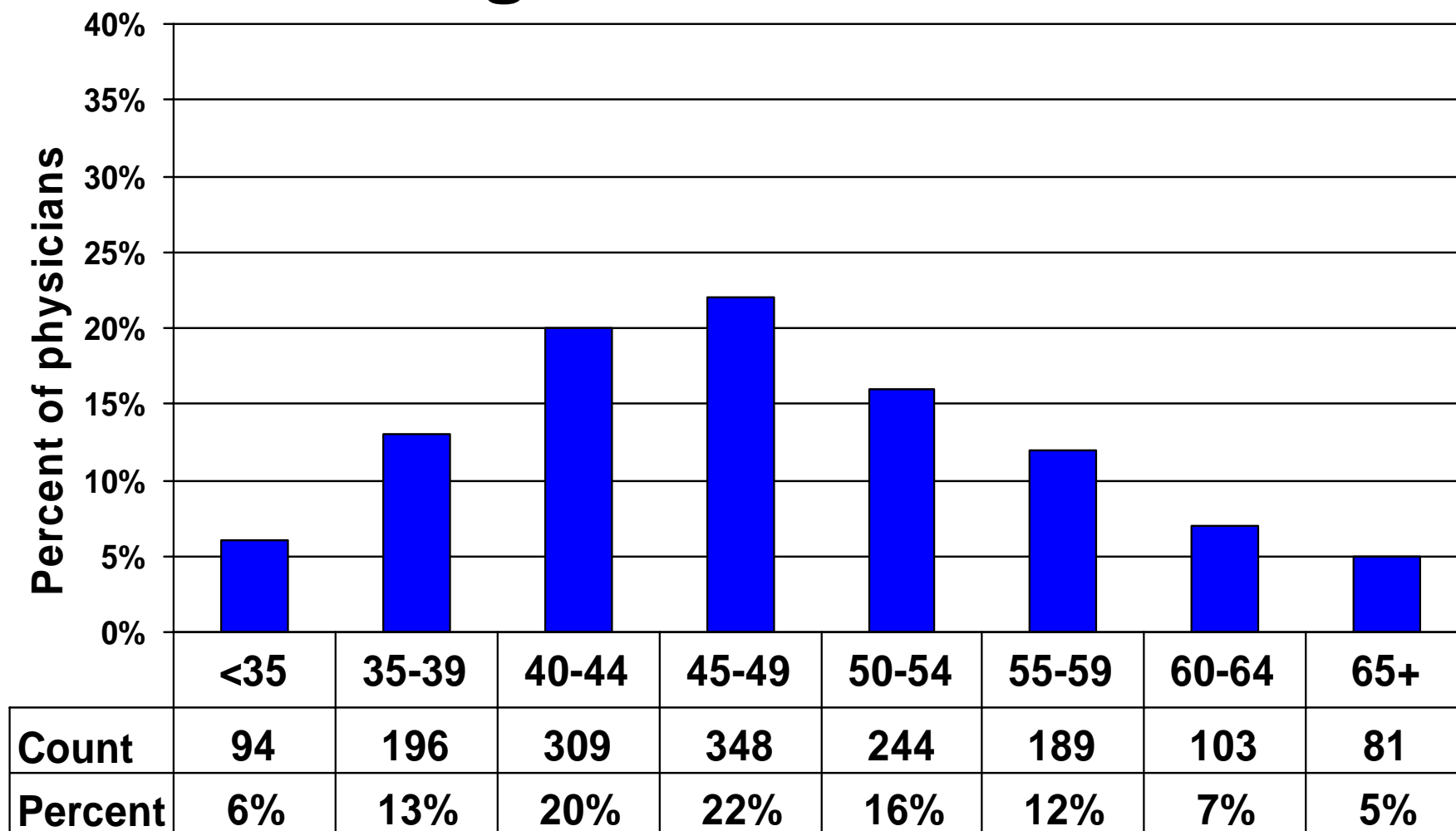
AGE OF PHYSICIANS

- Ages ranged from 27 to 90, with a median age of 47.
- In 5 of 14 counties, 10% or more of the primary care physicians are over age 60
- 14% of specialists are over age 60. This includes 26% of ophthalmologists, 23% of pathologists, and 22% of general surgeons.

CHANGES OVER TIME

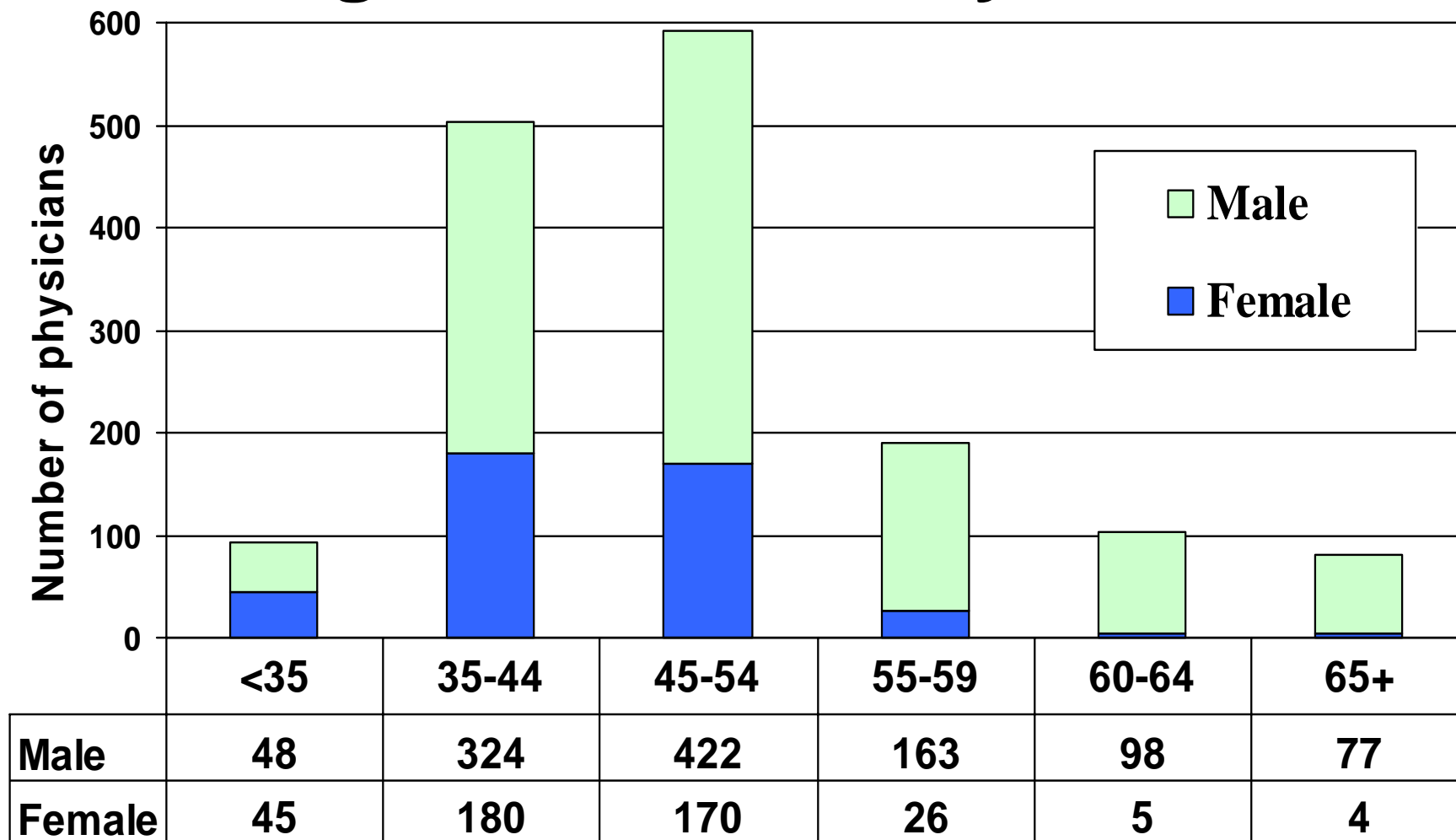
- As compared with 2000:
 - There are 43 more primary care physicians (20.7 FTEs).
 - There are 42 more specialty care physicians (44.6 FTEs). FTE increases were especially large in Anesthesiology and Radiology.
 - Primary care FTEs increased from 77.6 to 80.1 FTEs per 100,000 population.

Age Distribution



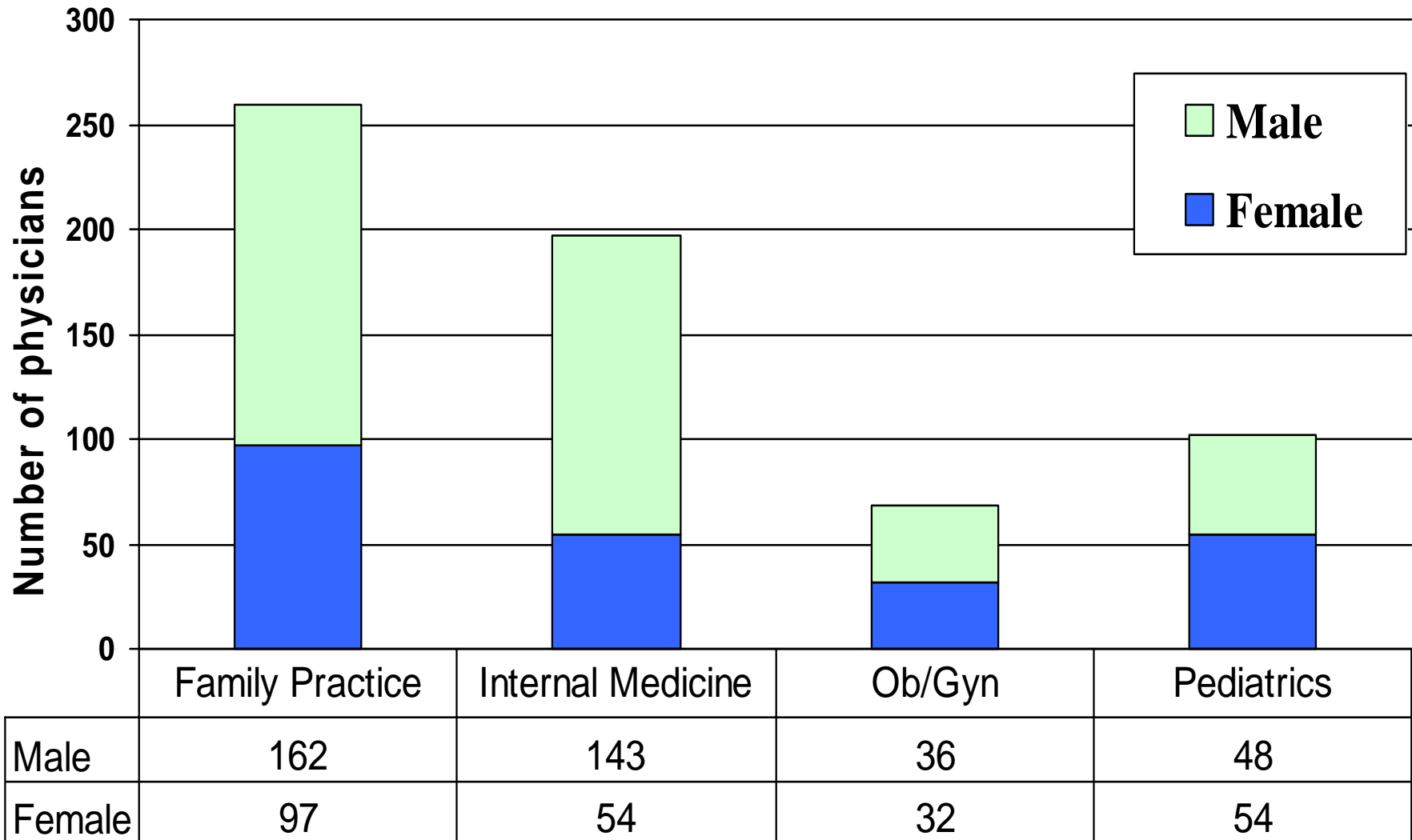
12% of all physicians are over age 60

Age Distribution by Gender



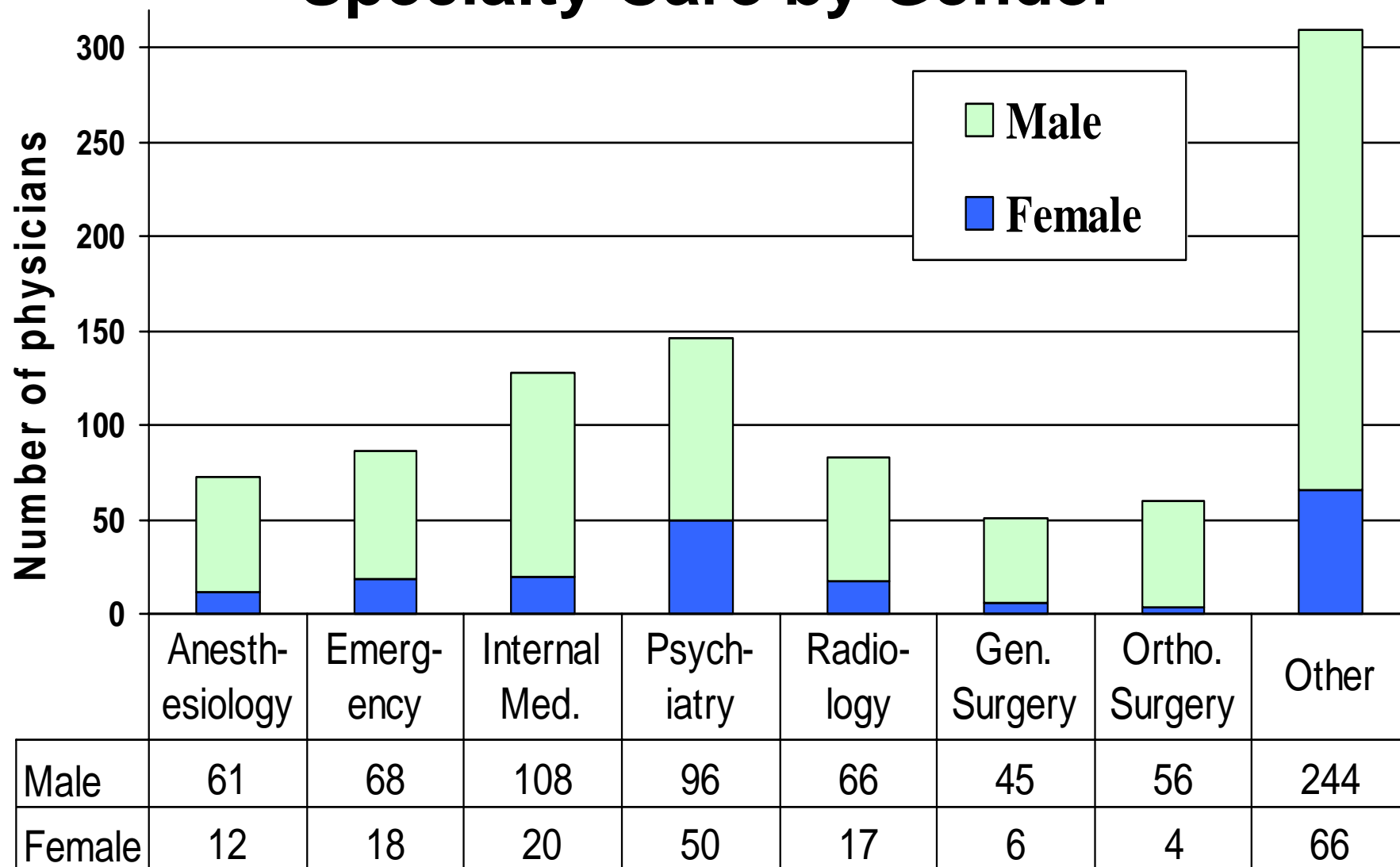
Most of the older physicians are male (91% of those over 55)

Primary Care by Gender



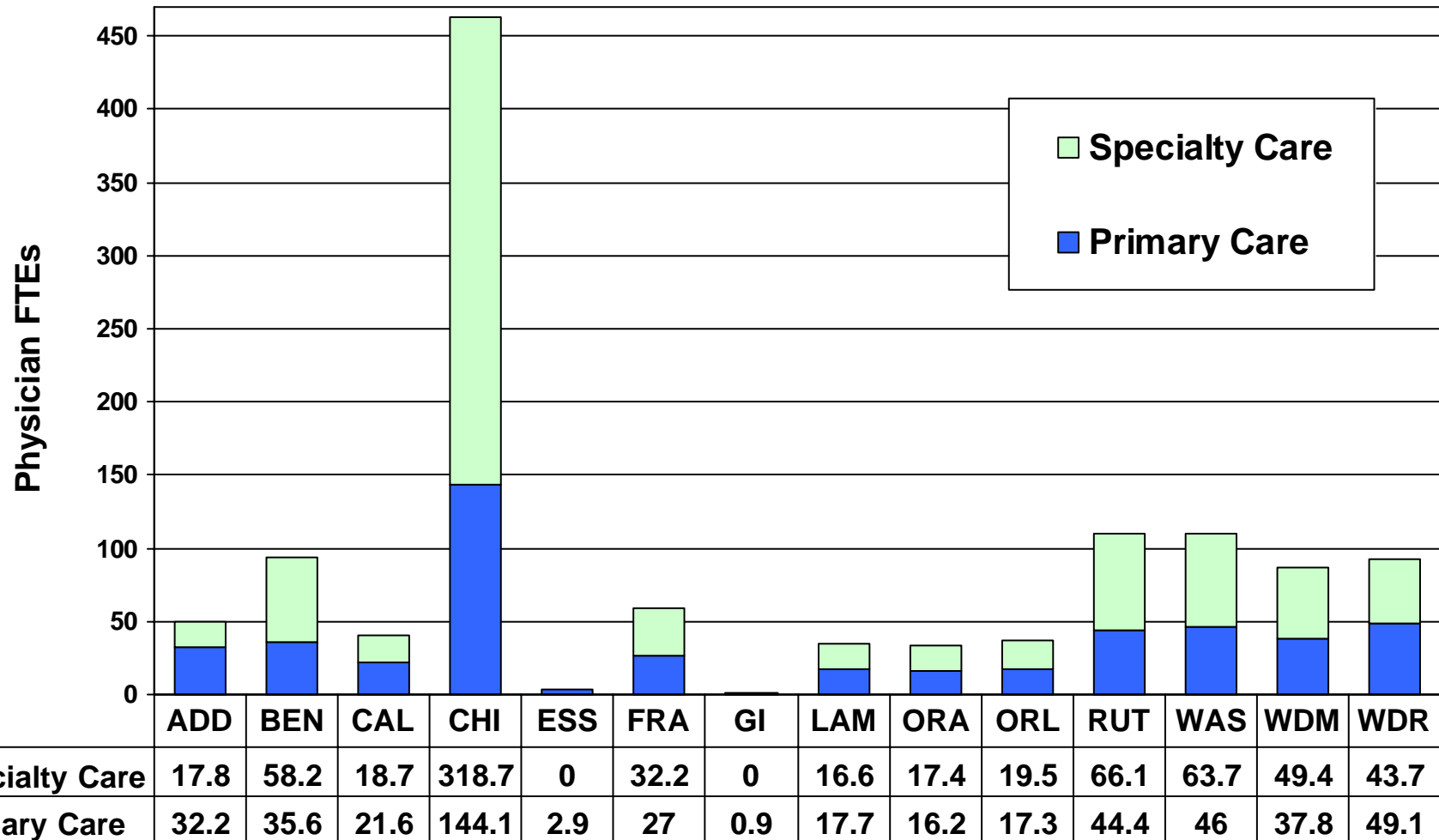
Shown for each specialty are the numbers of physicians who work mainly in that specialty

Specialty Care by Gender



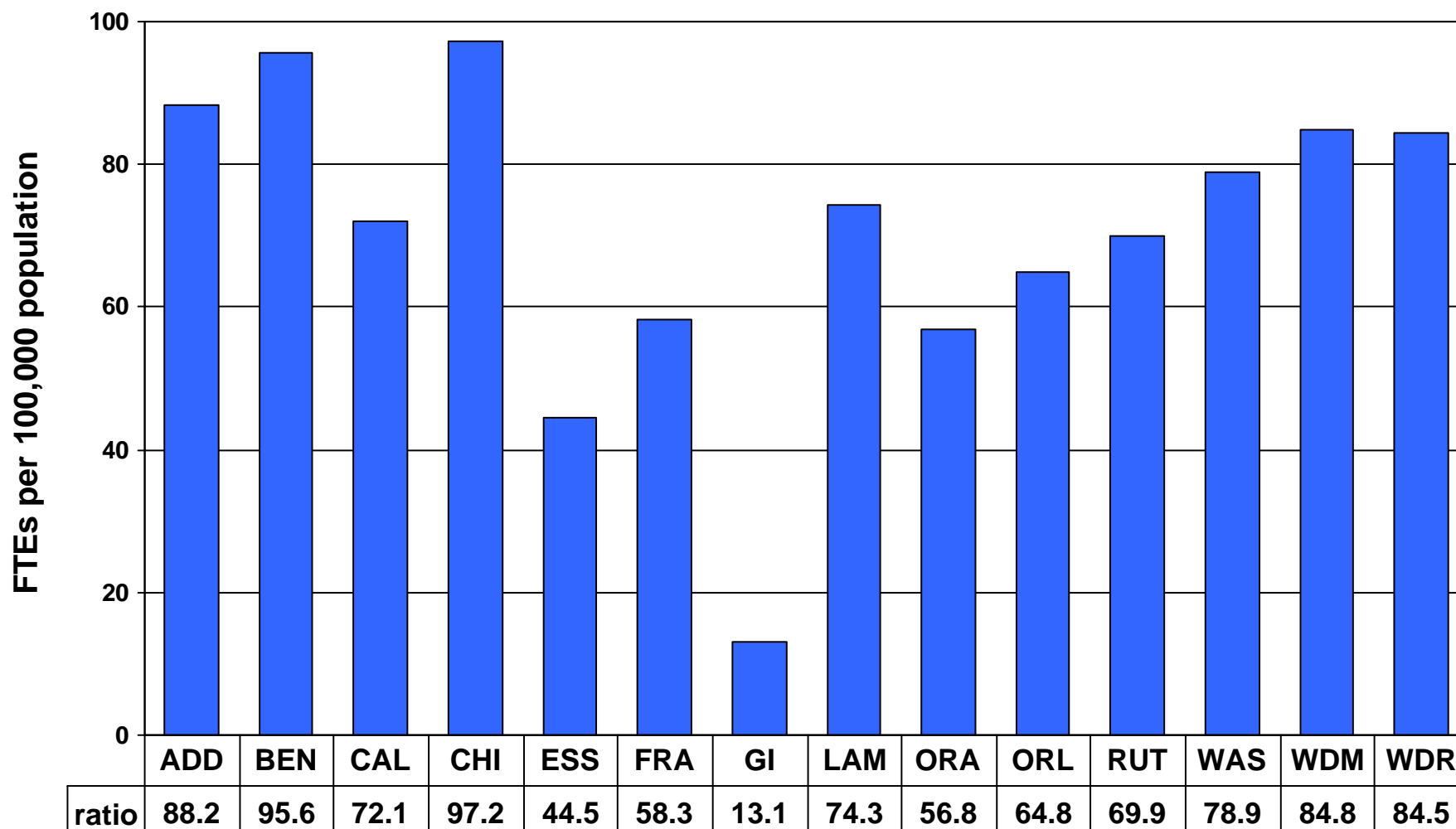
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Number of FTEs by County



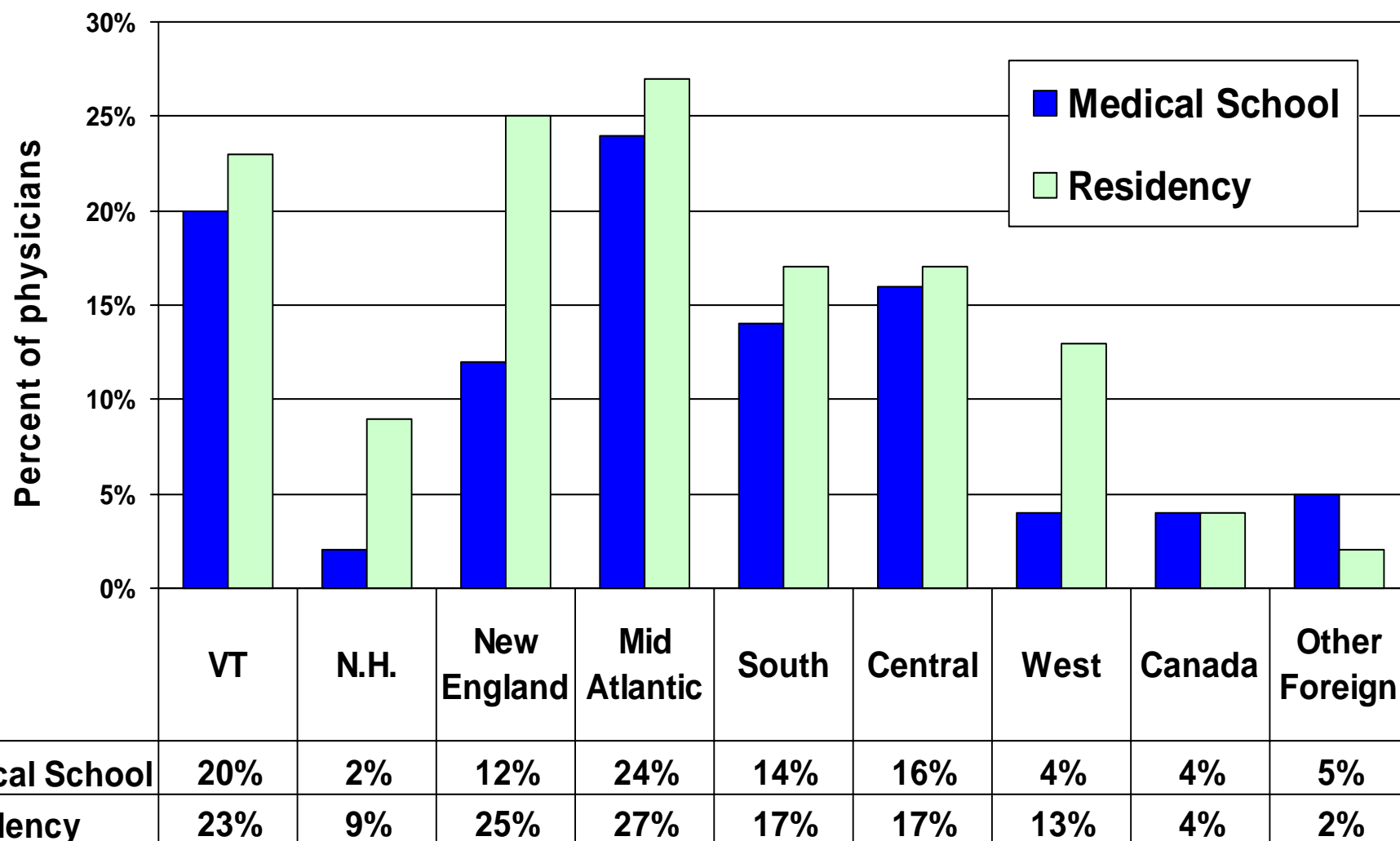
All sites and specialties of each physician are counted here.
One FTE is defined as 40 or more hours per week.

Primary Care FTE to Population Ratios by County



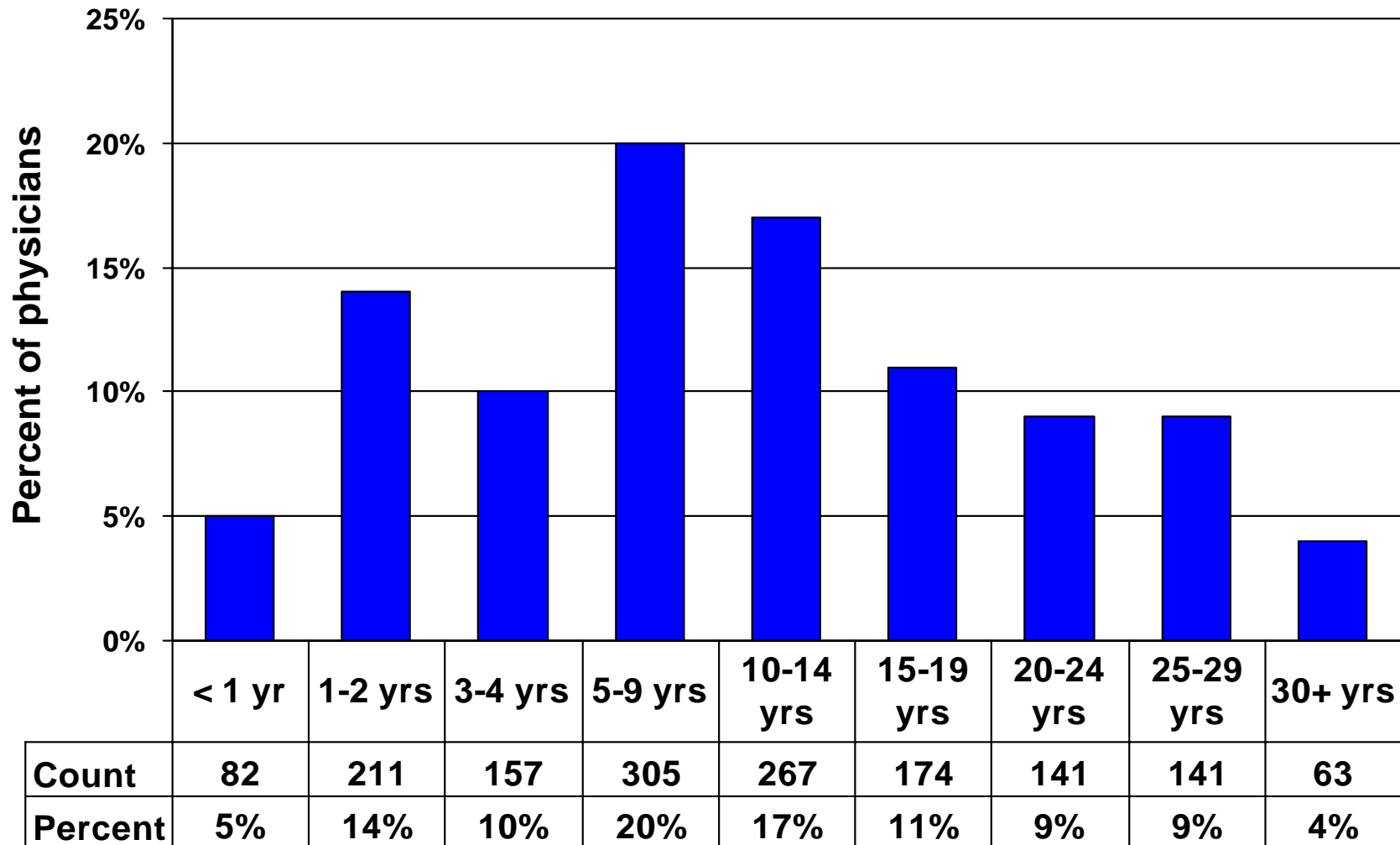
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Location of Training



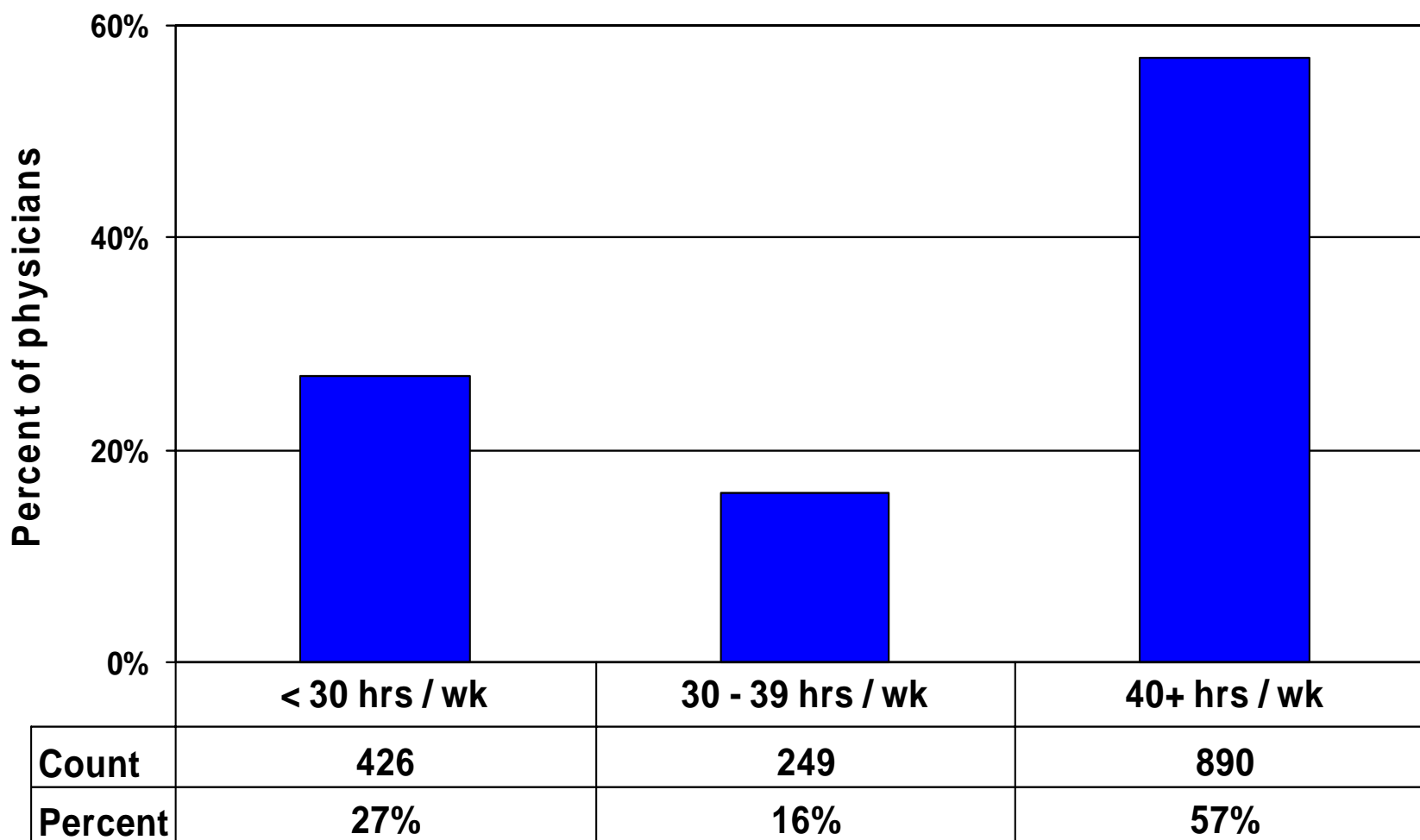
Depicted are: only first medical school, but any residency in region (thus more than 100% total)

Years Worked in Vermont



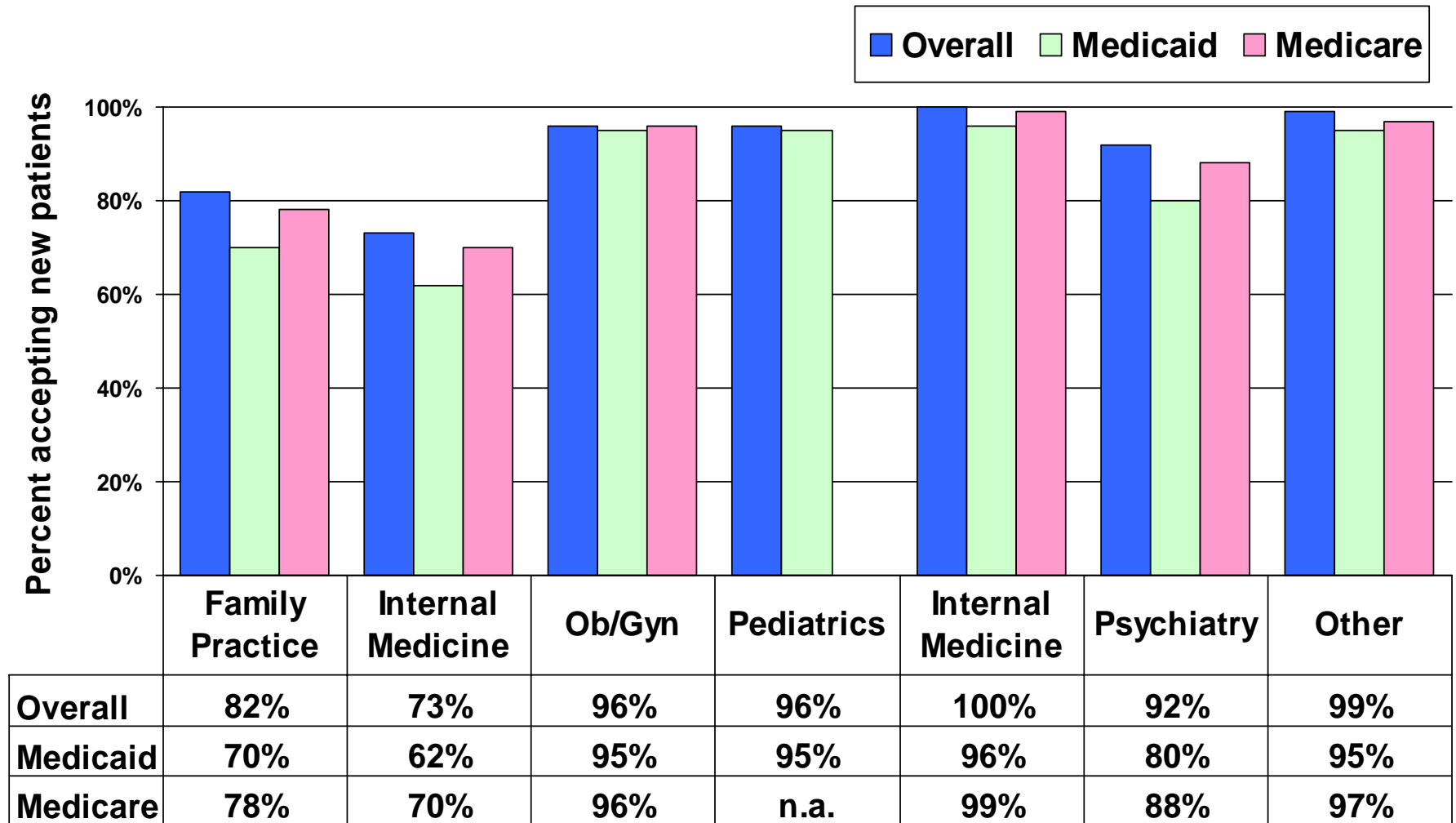
Years worked in Vermont was unknown for 24 physicians

Hours Worked Per Week



Average patient care hours per week: 39 overall, 27 for ages 65 and up.
62% of males, but only 41% of females, provide patient care 40+ hours per week.

Accepting New Patients



92% accepted new patients overall, 95% accepted new Medicaid patients, 89% new Medicare.
Each site a physician practices in is counted separately. Emergency medicine excluded.

Comparison of Selected Physician Data, 1994-2002

	1994	1996	1998	2000	2002
Total active * physicians	1204	1384	1410	1480	1565
Percent female	22%	22%	24%	26%	28%
Primary care physicians	493	535	554	585	628
% accepting new patients **	88%	92%	87%	80%	83%
accepting new medicaid patients **	82%	86%	81%	72%	75%
accepting new medicare patients **	81%	87%	81%	73%	78%
Primary care physician FTEs	407.3	438.2	450.3	472.2	492.9
FTEs per 100,000 Population	69.6	73.4	75.0	77.6	80.1
Specialist physicians	711	849	856	895	937
Specialist physician FTEs ***	555.7	623.3	651.7	677.5	722.1
% of FTEs in Chittenden County	43%	42%	43%	43%	44%

* providing patient care in Vermont

** % of sites not physicians, '02 not comparable with '94-'00

*** FTEs not computed for pathology